



Respect Honesty Compassion Resilience Industry Courage

The Market Weighton School

Expect More - Achieve More

Parent Newsletter

April 2020

WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL CLOSURE EDITION

ISSUE 60

Headteacher's Update

We find ourselves in exceptional times, schools closed for the foreseeable future and GCSEs cancelled for this summer! I am not expecting schools to re-open before September at the earliest so working to support education at home will be crucial over the coming weeks and months. We have tried to respond as quickly as possible with setting work and publishing advice for parents. The front of the website now has all this information in one place so you can refer to it as needed. We have a small number of children still accessing school based provision but most key workers have managed to make alternative arrangements so the vast majority of our students are now working from home. The staff are also on the whole working from home but are available through E-praise or e-mail if you have any questions.

Our support staff team are in weekly contact with our families of SEND students and those considered most vulnerable. If provision is needed in school at any point we will be able to provide that. However it is vital we do all we can to limit social mixing and maintain social distancing within school. It is therefore a very different day for those students as you will read in this Newsletter.

The priority for us after the Prime Minister's announcement on Wednesday 18th March was to support Year 11 students in coming to terms with what they had just been told and creating a suitable end to their time at TMWS. You will read how we did this thanks to our great staff team and fantastic students who were a real credit to themselves and their families in how they have dealt with the past few weeks of uncertainty.

I intend to continue with newsletters and letters to parents as things develop in the coming weeks. It is vital that we communicate with each other to maintain learning but also to safeguard students welfare and mental health, over what is going to be a challenging period. It will be a difficult time for us all and I wish you all the very best over the coming weeks.

Richard Harrison
Headteacher



Year 11 Leave in style after 24 hours notice!

Following the announcement that schools were closing on Friday 20 March and that GCSEs were cancelled the priority was to give Year 11 students the send off they deserved. We had expected the school to close for a period of time but did not expect the announcement that there would be no formal exams this summer but instead teachers would give their grades to the exam boards and results would be awarded on that basis.

The priority on Thursday 19th was to try to first make sense of the announcement the previous evening. This was a hard assembly with many students in tears having found out they would not be sitting the exams they had worked so hard for.

They also realised that this would be their final week in school without any of the traditional build up, assemblies, prom, and shirt signing. The night before, as soon as she found out, Miss Joshi immediately set to work creating the traditional Year 7 to Year 11 school photograph presentation and found some other suitably embarrassing clips from Year 7.



The students had 2 lessons to see their friends, discuss what had happened and get their shirts signed in the now traditional way. The drama group put together a piece acting out some of the events of the past 5 years while others quickly prepared to entertain their peers with music and song. After lunch the students had a Leaver's Assembly like no other, put together in a few hours, but probably the best we have ever seen. The students provided hilarious entertainment and emotional words from staff both in the room and joining from home due to their own self isolation made it a memorable afternoon.

The students were given a guard of honor from all the staff as they left the building, to reflect how proud we all are of this year group.



The next day they were all back in pristine uniform for the whole Year group photograph which was booked in for the Friday and thankfully was still able to go ahead. Unfortunately some students were by this point self isolating at home so could not be there. We enlisted some Year 10s as 'body doubles' so all of Year 11 will appear on the final photograph! Another unique event for the Class of 2020!

We are yet to find out exactly how the GCSE grades will be determined but we do know they will be based heavily on teacher judgement with some statistical moderation to ensure comparable outcomes to previous years. Leaver's hoodies will still arrive, as they have been ordered and paid for! The Prom has been cancelled but we will reserve some dates in the Autumn when hopefully it can go ahead. We believe results will be available earlier than usual in July.

All the Colleges are adjusting their admission arrangements and will be sympathetic to the situation.

If any student needs any help staff are available to support, please make contact through the E-Praise system or e-mail in the usual way.



How many imposters can you spot in this picture! Several Year 10s stood in as body doubles, Year 11s will appear in the official photograph available to order now on line, details on the card the students were given on the day.

**Good Bye and Good Luck
To All our Year 11 students
The Class of 2020!**

Head of Year 11- Miss Joshi

It is always hard to say goodbye to a group of students but it was particularly difficult this year with the sudden announcement taking us by surprise.

Miss Joshi has worked hard to support all the students through the past year and will be available throughout the summer term to help with applications to Colleges, Apprenticeships or just for a chat if you want to catch up.

Massive thanks from all of Year 11!



Keep Reading and Quizzing at Home

Whilst students are at home they should keep reading, indeed use the time to read even more! A great way to keep the mind active and develop all important vocabulary. If students read books that have quiz on the Accelerated Reader system we use in school they can now take the quizzes at home by following the link below, or from the school website.

<https://ukhosted33.renlearn.co.uk/2194587/>

Coronavirus and Staying Healthy

The most important thing we can all do at present to reduce the risk of catching the Coronavirus is to stay at home, wash our hands regularly and limit our contact with other people as the virus spreads further. Eat well, sleep well and get your daily exercise.

In school we are currently virus free and implementing extra cleaning, using disinfectant to wipe surfaces, door handles, toilets facilities and other high use areas throughout the day. We are now operating strict social distancing for all staff and students working in school.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>

STAY AT HOME 

**PROTECT
THE NHS**

 **save
lives**

Safer Roads Humber –YOLO Performance



Before the school closed performers delivered a play to instil into our Year 9 students the importance of safety whilst being a passenger in a vehicle. The play gave an insight into how a family was coping having lost their son in a car accident. The play was very thought provoking showing how each family member reacted differently to the loss and how hard an impact it had on them, the extended family, their friends and school.

After the performance students took part in workshop sessions which included multiple choices about road safety, debating and re-enacting road safety situations and how their behaviours can be influenced by others.



Student Collection and Drop Off Point

To support the ongoing completion of work at home we have created a drop off and collection point inside the main entrance at school. This will allow items to be left for students to collect or items to be dropped off. Students can walk up on their own as part of their daily exercise. They should not enter the building or ring the bell, just collect and go. This



facility is for one off use for items such as text books, folders or perhaps if students were off school on the last two so were not given work packs from their teachers. Almost all work should be returned electronically through E-Praise or Google Classroom or will be completed on the web based platform such as Doodle.

We have also placed a stock of sanitary products in this area for anyone who needs them.

Keeping your child learning at home

We have published advice on our website and staff are available to answer any questions via E-Praise, e-mail or by calling school during our reduced office hours, 8:30am—3:30pm weekdays, not including bank holidays.

As we embark on what looks like it could be a long period of working at home it is crucial that we work together to keep our students learning. When we do get back to school they will have missed several months of teaching time and the older they are the harder this will be to make up in the time remaining before GCSEs.

Schools organise their day in a clear routine and set clear expectations. If you can do the same at home it will make all the difference. Encourage your child to have a set routine each day. Getting up at the same time they get up for school, having breakfast and being ready to start work before 9:00am.

You can see what work they have been set by checking E-Praise. If you don't have your own login access please contact Mr Poulston and he will help you set that up.

jpoulston@tmws.co.uk

Encourage your child to work in 40 minute blocks with short 5 minute breaks. Have a longer break and a snack around 11:00am and lunch at the usual time too. If they do this they will probably get through all the set work so they can do something different in the afternoon.

They should not be going out with friends but should go out for a run, cycle or walk with you or on their own. We are lucky that we are in an area with good places to run and walk where ever you live. If they do catch the virus they will be able to fight it off more effectively if they are fit and healthy, this means:

- Eating well
- Having a good night's sleep, having a routine
- Getting regular exercise

Mrs Townsend is encouraging everyone to do the daily work out with Joe Wicks available on the BBC i-player. There is so much available in the internet to support the students with their learning they should always be able to find something to help them. If not they can message their teacher using E-Praise, they are all keen to help you. If they need to collect anything from school we have set up a collection table just inside the front entrance. Students can walk up on their own as part of their daily exercise or drop them off. There is no need to come into school just collect and go. The doors are open each day from 8:30am to 3:30pm.

We will be calling parents if students are not returning work, to find out if there are any other ways we can support you. We will of course be happy to speak to students to help motivate them to complete work if needed.

After the first week some of you have contacted us to say your child has not had enough work and others that they have had too much, we will always share this with staff to aim to get this right. The work should reflect the timetable for that day/week and take between 3 and 5 hours a day to complete. With lots of time in the house this should leave time to do plenty of other things.

Stay Healthy and Keep Learning!

Supporting Student Wellbeing at Home

We have changed the front page of our website to give easy access to resources that are most relevant during the closure period. A priority is looking after student well being and we have added a number of links and resources that parents and students may find helpful. The government have also published advice with links to appropriate agencies on supporting student mental health.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

Please keep checking the school website for updates.

Guidance

Guidance for parents and carers on supporting children and young people's mental health and wellbeing during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak

Updated 30 March 2020



The Market Weighton School

Expect More - Achieve More

Head Teacher Mr R Harrison

The school is currently closed to all students other than the children of key workers and the most vulnerable. We are updating our website regularly with information and advice to parents at this challenging time.

To access our normal operational school website please click here

Advice to parents on supporting learning at home

As we embark on what looks like it could be a long period of working at home...
[read more](#)

Advice to students on learning at home

As we embark on what looks like it could be a long period of working at home...
[read more](#)

Ski Trip Update – Message from the Directors of Rayburn Tours

Dear Customer, We want to say thank you for being so patient whilst we...
[read more](#)

#OnlineSafetyatHome

A free activity pack for children of all ages and parents to help you stay safe online whilst at home.

#togetherathome

[Download Free Activity Pack](#)

Free School Meal Vouchers

Our Vouchers have started delivering to parents, if you have not received your voucher please message Mr J Poulston via Epraise.

[More information](#)

Wellbeing and Mental Health Support

[Find out more](#)

English Dept Online Reading Resource

[Read Now](#)

Student Links Page

Easy access to all student systems

[Open Now](#)

At school we are implementing a strict social distancing policy to protect staff and students. Read more on what the government mean by social distancing by **following this link**

Social Distancing in School

Since the school closed to the vast majority of students life for those coming in is very different as we are following a strict social distancing policy for staff and students.

Each student has their own work area and computer on which to complete the work set by teachers. The students who are coming to school are doing the same work as those at home but are supervised by staff on a weekly rota. Each afternoon staff lead lessons in their area including PE, Art, History and Science. Students have to stay 2m apart throughout the day including at breaks. The canteen is now closed and students bring a packed lunch but can access the well-being centre at breaks where snacks are available.

Staff are also following the social distancing policy working in their own office or around the building. If you come up to school please respect this policy and either use the drop off and collection facility or if you do need to speak to someone at reception stand well back.

TESCO Blue Tokens for Sensory Garden

For the next 3 months you can donate your TESCO blue tokens to our sensory garden project. We have some great spaces in school that we could make greater use of and want to create a safe quiet space for our autistic students to enjoy at breaks and lunchtimes. The students will also be involved in designing and looking after the space.



The Easter egg raffle in aid of the sensory garden was won by Billy Lupton in Year 7, hope you shared them out at home Billy!



This week is autism awareness week and Miss Gemmell with some of the teaching assistant team have signed up to walk 10,000 steps a day to raise money for The Autism Initiative Group, a good motivator to get out and exercise during the lockdown period!

Opening Hours during Closure Period

The school will be open on week days from 8:30am to 3:30pm for telephone enquiries and drop off / collection.

We will be closed on Monday 6th April, throughout the Easter weekend and Friday 17th April. The answer phone will be in operation when we are closed. Alternatively use E-Praise or e-mail to message staff directly but please respect that many staff are also self isolating or looking after their own families so may not reply immediately.

World Autism Awareness Day - 2 April

The Transition to Adulthood

Becoming an adult is typically equated with becoming a full and equal participant in the social, economic and political life of one's community. However, the transition to adulthood remains a significant challenge for persons with autism because of the lack of opportunities and support devoted to this phase of their life. As a result, the completion of high school, when education and other supported services provided by some governments tend to cease, has often been likened to "falling off a cliff".

The 2020 United Nations observance of the Day draws attention to issues of concern related to the transition to adulthood, such as the importance of participation in youth culture and the community self-determination and decision-making, access to post-secondary education and employment, and independent living.

Please see the link below for more information on the United Nations intentions.

<https://www.un.org/en/events/autismday/>

Support from the Market Weighton Community

As a school we have received lots of words of support over the past few weeks for which we are very grateful. We live in a supportive local community and in these difficult times it is important that we support each other and those who may need out help. Our Vicar and School Governor, Caroline Pinchbeck has shared some worship and prayer resources. We have added them to our website and included one below:

A prayer for the world

God of love and hope, you made the world and care for all creation, but the world feels strange right now. The news is full of stories about Coronavirus.

Some people are worried that they might get ill. Others are anxious for their family and friends.

Be with them and help them to find peace. We pray for the doctors and nurses and scientists, and all who are working to discover the right medicines to help those who are ill. Thank you that even in these anxious times, you are with us. Help us to put our trust in you and keep us safe. **Amen.**

Revd Canon Caroline Pinchbeck

The Vicarage, Cliffe Road, Market Weighton

Telephone 01430 879996

Email – vicarmwgs627@btinternet.com

All Saints Market Weighton is on Facebook and Twitter

Educational Visits

Almost all the planned trips and visits for 2020 have now been cancelled. For the visits abroad and residential visits for which deposits, or indeed full payments have been made, we need wait for the company to cancel in order for the insurance policies to pay out.

Due to the large number of cancellations the companies are taking time to return monies but we are assured that they are following ABTA guidelines and all money will be e-paid. As soon as we have it is school we will contact you for bank details to pay directly into your account.

We don't plan to re-book any other visits until the travel situation going forward is clear. When we return to school the priority will have to be catching up on lost learning so the number of visits and events are likely to be reduced, and sadly some students will miss out on opportunities due to the current situation.

Where possible however we will re arrange alternative dates when the time is right.

Supporting Local Care Workers with PPE



The national shortage of Personal Protective Equipment PPE has been well reported and when we were asked if we could support East Riding Care Workers we were only too pleased to raid our store cupboards for any new items we had in stock. Not a massive amount but every little helps. We certainly won't be needing it for a while!

Social Media Reminder



TMWS now has both Twitter and Facebook pages, please like and follow us to get our web updates straight to your phone. Updates on the latest developments on the school closure situation and what is happening in school and how we can support learning at home.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES.....

Term Dates 2019-2020 (Should we return)

Autumn Term	2 September to 20 December
Staff Training Day	2 September
Staff Training (<i>Disagg</i>)	25 October
Half Term	28 October to 1 November
Spring Term	7 January to 3 April
Staff Training Day	6 January
Half Term	17 February to 21 February
Easter	4 April to 19 April
Summer Term	21 April to 17 July
Staff Training Day	20 April
Half Term	25 May to 29 May

Term Dates 2020-2021 Hopefully!

Autumn Term	7 September to 18 December
Staff Training Day	7 September
Staff Training Day (<i>Students not in</i>)	23 October
Half Term	26 October to 30 October
Spring Term	4 January to 26 March
Staff Training Day	4 January
Half Term	15 February to 19 February
Easter	29 March to 9 April
Summer Term	12 April to 26 July
Staff Training Day	12 April
Half Term	31 May to 4 June
Staff Training (<i>Students not in</i>)	26 July

To note students are not in school on staff training days.